WINNERS' CIRCLE 2027

A Biennial Exhibition of Award-Winning Artists

Presented by: Art Council of Southwest Florida

Exhibition Dates: February 17 – March 19, 2027

Hosted by: Visual Arts Center, Punta Gorda, Florida

ART COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

WINNERS' CIRCLE 2027

Celebrating Excellence in Southwest Florida Visual Arts

The Winners' Circle is intended to celebrate excellence in the visual arts while presenting a professional museum-quality exhibition representing the very best of the Art Council of Southwest Florida's Affiliate Member Organizations.

The Winners' Circle is the Art Council of Southwest Florida's premier biennial exhibition featuring award-winning artists from the Council's Affiliate Member Organizations. Every two years, the exhibition brings together the region's finest artists whose work has earned distinction through juried competition.

Presented by the Art Council of Southwest Florida at our partner’s location, Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda, Winners' Circle 2027 showcases the artistic excellence, diversity, and creativity that define Southwest Florida's vibrant visual arts community.

About the Art Council of Southwest Florida

Founded to foster cooperation among visual arts organizations throughout the region, the Art Council of Southwest Florida serves as a collaborative alliance dedicated to advancing excellence in the visual arts.

The Council encourages artistic growth through exhibitions, education, advocacy, networking, and regional partnerships while promoting public appreciation of the arts across Southwest Florida.

The Winners' Circle Exhibition reflects this mission by recognizing artists who have achieved distinction through competitive exhibitions hosted by the Council's Affiliate Member Organizations. Together these organizations represent thousands of artists working in virtually every medium and collectively contribute to the rich cultural landscape of Southwest Florida. Together these organizations represent thousands of artists working in virtually every medium and collectively contribute to the rich cultural landscape of Southwest Florida.

Artwork Specifications

To ensure a professional exhibition and facilitate safe handling and installation, all accepted artwork must meet the following requirements.

Winners Circle 2027 is for 2D and 3D art. Permissible mediums include Painting, Drawing, Photography, Clay, Ceramics, Glass Art, Textiles, Wood, Metal, Stone, Jewelry, Photography, and Mixed Media.

The Winners Circle is open to member organization artists who won either First, Second or Third place awards on original work from January 1, 2024 through October 30, 2025. Artworks that appeared in Winners Circle 2025 are not eligible for Winners Circle 2027.

Presentation: Two-dimensional artwork must:

- Be completely framed or gallery wrapped with finished edges. (at least 1½" depth)
- Be wired and ready to hang using professional hanging wire.
- Not use sawtooth hangers.
- Be clean and in exhibition-quality condition.

Three-dimensional artwork must:

- Be stable and suitable for display.
- Require no assembly by exhibition staff.
- Include any necessary display stand if integral to the presentation.
- Textiles must have a hanging sleeve or dowel.

  Permission is required from the Resident Curator for any other hanging mechanisms in advance of Registration. The Art Council reserves the right to reject artwork that does not meet presentation standards.

  Sales: The Winners' Circle Exhibition encourages the sale of original artwork while supporting both the artist and the hosting organizations. All artwork submitted may be offered for sale unless designated **Not For Sale (NFS)** by the artist.

Sales occurring during the exhibition will be divided as follows:

- **Artist:** 60%
- **Art Council of Southwest Florida / Presenter** 20%
- **Visual Art Center / Host 20%**

All sales are final.

Purchased artwork will remain on display until the close of the exhibition unless otherwise authorized by the Exhibition Committee.

Insurance - Artists are solely responsible for maintaining insurance coverage on their artwork during transportation, exhibition, storage, and return. Artists are encouraged to obtain personal fine art insurance appropriate to the value of their work.

The Art Council of Southwest Florida, the Visual Arts Center, volunteers, sponsors, exhibition committee members, and partnering organizations do not provide insurance coverage for loss, theft, damage, or deterioration of artwork.

Liability - Every reasonable precaution will be taken in handling and displaying artwork.

Submission of artwork constitutes acceptance that the Art Council of Southwest Florida, the Visual Arts Center, volunteers, sponsors, officers, directors, and exhibition personnel shall not be held liable for accidental damage, theft, loss, fire, water damage, or circumstances beyond their reasonable control.

Artist Agreement - Submission of artwork to the Winners' Circle 2027 constitutes agreement that:

- The artwork is the original creation of the exhibiting artist. Artwork produced under classroom instruction, workshops, paint-alongs, or from commercially produced kits is not eligible. Artwork created from another artist's copyrighted work is prohibited.
- The artwork complies with all eligibility requirements contained in this prospectus.

- The artist grants the Art Council of Southwest Florida and the Visual Art Center permission to photograph and reproduce images of the artwork for exhibition publicity, educational purposes, printed materials, social media, websites, catalogs, and future promotional materials without additional compensation.
- The artist certifies that the submitted information is accurate.
- The artist agrees to abide by all deadlines, delivery requirements, installation standards, and exhibition policies.
- The artist accepts the sales commission, insurance responsibilities, and liability provisions established for the exhibition.
- Decisions of the Exhibition Committee regarding eligibility, installation, awards, and interpretation of prospectus rules are final.